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INFORMATION REPORT

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50X1-HUM

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia/Bulgaria

SUBJECT Resistance in Yugoslavia; Government Measures
to Counteract Nationalists and Cominformists

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DATE OF
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50X1-HUM

1. Small armed resistance groups currently operate in Eastern Bosnia, and Hercegovina. These Yugoslav groups rarely exceed eight or ten in number. In Bosnia the guerrillas are largely nationalist, whereas Cominform groups have been seen to operate in Montenegro and Macedonia, in addition to nationalist elements. The Cominformists avoid all contact with the nationalists and operate principally along the Albanian border.

2. The Tito Government represses guerrilla fighters by transferring into another locality and placing into concentration camps all family members of those who have joined the underground, confiscating all their movable property and giving it to the kolkhoz (farming cooperatives). The largest concentration camp of this type is the one in Zavidovic in Bosnia. It contains approximately eight hundred and fifty families, totaling over 6,000 people. The inmates, who are fed very badly, are subjected to forced labor, and the death rate among them is very high. Another concentration camp of this type is at Capljina in Hercegovina.

3. Apart from the regular Militia, which is used to counteract guerrilla activities, a special mobile Army contingent with approximately two hundred men for each district, is employed. Each contingent is attached to two or three important observation posts. They have a determined number of informants in each town or village, and these must cooperate with the contingent. Names of all suspected persons in a given village or town must be reported immediately to the headquarters of the special unit by messengers chosen for this task. Should an informant fail, even over a short period of time, to inform the respective mobile unit of the presence in a given town of a stranger or a foreigner, the entire town or area is subjected to severe reprisals and confiscation. Thus, each incident of resistance is followed in turn by extremely heavy reprisals directed against the town or village under whose sector of jurisdiction the attempt on the life of a Party member or a terroristic act has been carried out.

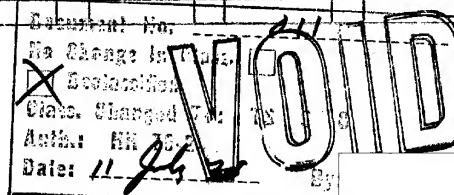
4. As a result of the drastic measures undertaken by the Yugoslav regime, members of the resistance have been escaping in increasing numbers. One of the chief reasons is that they do not wish to compromise, by their very presence, the life of Yugoslav peasants, who in addition to so many other things lack the food necessary for existence. Most of the nationalists have been escaping through the mountain range of the Durmotor, the Golija, and the Sar Planina.

50X1-HUM

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50X1-HUM

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50X1-HUM

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- 2 - **CONFIDENTIAL**

5. The Bulgarian Police have accumulated evidence demonstrating that Tito has been sending agents into the neighboring countries of Yugoslavia under the guise of sympathy for the Cominform. The task of these agents is to surveil the activities of Yugoslav Cominformists abroad. A group of eleven such agents successfully penetrated a Yugoslav refugee group in Dzhumaya. On 9 October the Bulgarian police authorities attempted to arrest them, but they met with armed resistance. Four Yugoslav agents were killed, while seven escaped toward the Macedonian border. Following the incident, a restricted order was promulgated by the Cominform advising Yugoslav emigres to watch out for Tito agents and to purge their circles of such elements. Purges of this nature have taken place in Budapest, Prague, Bucharest, and Tirana.

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